



# News Release

## WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## More soldiers from National Guard infantry battalion returning from Iraq

Flights expected at Volk Field Sunday, Monday

About 120 soldiers from Company C of the Wisconsin Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry, based in Arcadia and Neillsville, are scheduled to arrive at Volk Field around 8:00 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, along with a contingent of about 25 troops from Company A, located in Menomonie.

Most of the members of the battalion's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, based in Eau Claire with a detachment in Abbotsford, will return shortly after 8 a.m. Monday, Oct. 31, along with about 70 additional soldiers from Company A. There will also be small groups of soldiers representing the battalion's other companies on Monday's flight.

About 147 of the battalion's soldiers returned to Wisconsin earlier this week. The rest of the battalion is expected to return to Volk Field during the coming week, with the exception of small groups of soldiers who make up the "rear detachments" of the battalion's units. Soldiers who had been assigned to the battalion's River Falls-based Company D were reassigned to other battalion units during the mobilization process last year and they will be returning with the units to which they were reassigned.

1st Battalion, 128th Infantry was mobilized June 20, 2004 and deployed to Iraq in November 2004 following several months training at Camp Shelby, Miss., and Fort Irwin, Calif. The battalion served for nearly one full year overseas in central Iraq in the Samara area.

Returning soldiers will be met by their families, senior National Guard officials and the 132nd Army Band. Following an initial reunion with their families and a brief official "welcome home," the soldiers will travel to nearby Fort McCoy to begin about five days of demobilization processing.

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**Note to Editors and News Directors:** News media are welcome to cover the return of 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry soldiers to Volk Field Sunday Oct. 30 and Monday Oct. 31. The Sunday flight is

expected to arrive at the Air National Guard base sometime around 8:00 a.m. and the Monday flight is scheduled for arrival shortly after 8:00 a.m. Actual flight arrival times are likely to change.

Volk Field is located in Juneau County off Exit 55 on Interstate Highways 90-94 near Camp Douglas.

Following each aircraft's arrival, soldiers and their families will have about an hour together before the soldiers are bused to Fort McCoy to begin demobilization processing.

News media organizations wishing to cover the Volk Field arrival should call Tim Donovan (608-516-1777) so arrangements can be made for access to the military installation. News media will not be permitted on the base unless arrangements have been made in advance. Please call by 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29.

**AIRCRAFT ARRIVAL TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

**CALL 608-242-3059 FOR RECORDED SCHEDULE CHANGES.**